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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2653**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert L. THORNTON et al.

Application No.: 09/495,552

Filed: February 1, 2000

For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD
SYSTEM WITH INTEGRATED SLIDER
AND LASER

Examiner: THANG TRAN


Art Unit: 2653

Confirmation No.: 5007

Docket No.: ST 2623.01 US

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
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| February 15, 2005 (Date) | Lori Fukuhara (Type or print name) |
|  (Signature) | |

Sir:

In response to the outstanding FINAL Office Action mailed November 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

FACSIMILE COMMUNICATIONS

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Date: February 15, 2005

Number of Pages: Cover + 15

TELEPHONE NO. (703) 305-9730
FAX NO. (703) 872-9306

ATTN: Examiner Thang Tran

FROM: Caroline Do, Esq.

PLEASE CONTACT US IF ANY PAGES
ARE ILLEGIBLE OR ARE NOT RECEIVED

RE: U.S. Application No: 09/495,552
Filed: February 1, 2000
Confirmation No.: 5007
Title: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD SYSTEM
WITH INTEGRATED SLIDER AND
LASER
Inventor: Thornton, et al.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: U.S. Application No.: 09/495,552
Confirmation No.: 5007
Filed: February 1, 2000
Entitled: Near-Field Optical Head System with Integrated Slider and Laser
Inventor: Robert L. THORNTON, et al.
Our File No.: ST 2623.01 US

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response Under 37 CFR §1.116 (pages 1-13);
2. Transmittal Form;
3. Cover Letter;
4. Certificate of Facsimile, dated February 14, 2005.

Please acknowledge receipt of this transmittal.

Very truly yours,

DISCOVISION ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Caroline T. Do'.

Caroline T. Do, Esq.
Senior Patent Prosecution Attorney
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

CD:lf

Enclosures

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 09/495,552 |
| | Filing Date | February 1, 2000 |
| | First Named Inventor | Robert L. THORNTON |
| | Art Unit | 2653 |
| | Examiner Name | TRAN, Thang V. |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | ST 2623.01 US |

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| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <u>Cover Letter, Certificate of Facsimile,</u> <u>dated January 14, 2005</u> |
| Remarks | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name **Discovision Associates - Intellectual Property Development**

Signature

Printed name **Caroline T. Do.**Date **February 15, 2005**Reg. No. **47,529**

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature

Typed or printed name **Lori Fukuhara**

Date

February 15, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.